



## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON



OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN MAR 2.5 1993

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Jim McCrery House of Representatives 225 Cannon Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McCrery:

This is in reply to your letter of February 16, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the <u>Notice</u> reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the <u>Notice</u>, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the <u>Notice</u> that describes the numerous proposals.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the <u>Notice</u>.

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. As you have requested, your constituents' concerns will be included in the record of this proceeding and will be considered in developing our final rules.

## Congressional

DUE OBC: 3-4-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

REMARKS: On behalf of several constituents

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 02/24/93

## LETTER REPORT

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